



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

Uses of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors and Asthma Medication in Texas Schools

2021-2022 School Year

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Epinephrine Auto-Injector Use in Texas Schools

2021-2022 School Year



Epinephrine Auto-Injector Use in Texas Schools

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) School Health Program worked with the DSHS Chronic Disease Epidemiology Branch (CDE) to analyze data submitted through the *Required Reporting of Administered Epinephrine Auto-Injectors to DSHS* web form during the 2021-2022 school year.



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Data Summary - Epinephrine Auto-Injector Use in Texas Schools (August 1, 2021, through July 31, 2022)

Form Data	Number	Percent
Total Schools Reported:		
• Independent School Districts (ISD)	43	87.7
• Private Schools	4	8.2
• Charter Schools	2	4.1
Total Injections Administered:	116	100
Administered to:		
• Students	99	85.3
• School Personnel or Volunteers	16	13.8
• Visitors	1	0.9
Number of Doses:		
• One Dose	112	96.6
• Two Doses	4	3.4
Dosage Administered:		
• Adult	85	73.3
• Pediatric	31	26.7
History of Anaphylaxis:		
• Yes	56	48.2
• No	51	44.0
• Unknown	9	7.8



Data Summary Continued - Epinephrine Auto-Injector Use in Texas Schools (August 1, 2021, through July 31, 2022)

Form Data	Number	Percent
Notified Emergency Medical Services ¹ :		
• Yes	89	76.7
• No	27	23.3
Suspected Trigger:		
• Food	64	55.2
• Unknown	28	24.1
• Insect Sting or Bite	11	9.5
• Other	10	8.6
• Medication	2	1.7
• Latex	1	0.9
Unassigned Auto-Injector Utilized:		
• Yes	103	88.8
• No	13	11.2

¹ The DSHS School Health Program changed the epinephrine reporting question from “transported to emergency medical services” to “notified emergency medical services” midway through the data collection period in late March 2022.



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Summary: Epinephrine Auto-Injector Use in Texas Schools

- **Total Epinephrine Auto-Injectors Administered:** 116
- **Population Characteristics:** Most injections were given to students. Almost half of the injections were given to people with a known history of anaphylaxis or allergies.
- **Top Symptoms:** Tightness in throat or chest, trouble breathing or shortness of breath, itchiness, anxiety, and rapid pulse
- **Top Trigger:** Food
- **Limitations:** COVID-19 pandemic and limited reporting



Asthma Medication Use in Texas Schools

2021-2022 School Year



Asthma Medication Use in Texas Schools

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) School Health Program worked with the DSHS Chronic Disease Epidemiology Branch (CDE) to analyze data submitted through the *Required Reporting of Administered Unassigned Asthma Medication to DSHS* web form during the 2021-2022 school year.



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Data Summary – Asthma Medication Use in Texas Schools (August 1, 2021, through July 31, 2022)

Form Data	Number	Percent
Total Schools Reported:		
• Independent School Districts (ISD)	11	91.7
• Charter School	1	8.3
Total Medications Administered:	379	100
Location Administered:		
• Nurse's Office	328	86.5
• Clinic	46	12.1
• Recess	3	0.8
• Other	2	0.6
Method Administered by:		
• Metered-Dose Inhalers (MDI)	334	88.1
• Nebulized Solution	44	11.6
• Both	1	0.3
Name of Medication:		
• Albuterol/Albuterol Sulfate	378	99.7
• Unknown	1	0.3
Number of Doses:		
• One Dose	289	76.3
• Two Doses	85	22.4
• Three Doses	1	0.3
• Four Doses	4	1.0



Data Summary Continued – Asthma Medication Use in Texas Schools (August 1, 2021, through July 31, 2022)

Form Data	Number	Percent
History of Asthma ¹ :		
• Yes	344	90.8
• No	35	9.2
Top Suspected Triggers:		
• Exercise	215	56.7
• Weather or Air Pollution	125	33.0
• Unknown	67	17.7
• Pollen	57	15.0
• Respiratory Infections	37	9.8
• Other	16	4.2
• Emotions	9	2.4
Notified ² :		
• Parent or Guardian	377	99.5
• Prescribing Physician	247	65.2
• Primary Healthcare Provider	125	33.0

¹Written notification from a parent or guardian that the student has a history of asthma is required by TEC, Section 38.208.

²Respondents could select all that apply. Therefore, total percent will not equal to 100.



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Summary: Asthma Medication Use in Texas Schools

- **Total Medications Administered:** 379
- **Population Characteristics:** Most individuals who received the asthma medication had a known history of asthma and the parents or guardians were notified.
- **Top Symptoms:** Trouble breathing or shortness of breath and wheezing
- **Top Trigger:** Exercise
- **Limitations:** COVID-19 pandemic and limited reporting



Thank you!

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